

What To Do When You Miss

QUESTION: You're in the tree, you take a shot, and you miss. What do you do?

ANSWER: If you miss a deer, try to blow and snort to try and convince that buck there's another deer here. It may actually calm him down. There are different types of snorts and various kinds of blows. You may even grunt to them after you've shot at them. Avid bowhunter Alex Rutledge killed a 9-point deer that he initially missed. The deer jumped straight up in the air, and as soon as Alex saw that he'd missed him, he grunted to him, which seemed to calm him down. He came back to rub and urinate, and Alex nailed him. If you miss, don't get angry, do something deer-like to try and calm that buck down.

QUESTION: What can you do to calm a deer down besides grunt?

ANSWER: You also can bleat. If a deer blows and runs off, blow back. He may just come back to you.

QUESTION: What's another interesting situation where you can use your call to get deer to come back in?

ANSWER: There is a tactic called flagging. Walk in and approach a deer. Then when the deer gets spooked and begins to run off, flash something white at them. Often the deer will turn to look back. When the deer sees the white that's not running away, the sight of that white seems to calm them down. Sometimes they'll stop and come back. Deer communicate with their white tails.